

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1033

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002

INTEGRATION OF IA AND AI OPERATIONS

PRABHA RAU;SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of countries with whom India has bilateral agreements and flights being operated to and from there;
- (b) the salient feature of these agreements;
- (c) whether India fully utilises its capacities with all the countries;
- (d) if not, whether the Indian Airlines also proposes to start operation to such countries;
- (e) whether the Government propose to integrate the operations of Air India and Indian Airlines; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

- (a)&(b): India has so far entered into Air Services Agreements with 97 countries. These agreements provide the basic legal framework for operation of scheduled air services between India and the country concerned.
- (c): No, sir.
- (d): Indian Airlines is presently operating to 13 countries physically.
- (e)&(f): As per the existing policy, for commencement of international operation on a new route/sector or expansion thereof, the first right of refusal would be with Air India, which will have to be exercised within a given time frame. If Air India does not exercise the option or does not intend to do so, this could be offered to Indian Airlines. Efforts are also made to avoid competition between the national carriers to the extent possible.